



LEXILES IN THE LIBRARY

“Lexiles” defined

The Lexile Framework® for Reading is a scientific approach to reading and text measurement, placing both readers and texts on a common scale. The Lexile Framework includes the Lexile® measure and the Lexile scale. The Lexile measure is a reading ability or text difficulty score followed by an “L” (e.g., “850L”). The Lexile scale is a developmental scale for reading ranging from below 200L for beginning readers and texts to above 1700L for advanced readers and texts. The Lexile Framework matches reader ability and text difficulty, allowing you to more effectively guide students to appropriate reading choices.

Managing reader comprehension

Lexile measures allow you to manage reader comprehension by matching students with texts that are appropriately challenging. Matching a reader’s Lexile measure to a text with the same Lexile measure leads to an expected 75-percent comprehension rate—not too difficult to be frustrating, but challenging enough to encourage reading progress. You can further adjust anticipated comprehension simply by choosing more or less difficult texts within a student’s suggested Lexile range of 50L above and 100L below their Lexile measure. (To see how changing a Lexile measure for a text affects comprehension, try the free Lexile Calculator at www.Lexile.com.)

Lexile text measures widely available

Tens of thousands of books and tens of millions of articles have Lexile measures. More than 450 publishers Lexile their titles, and the nation’s largest periodical database services use Lexile measures for newspaper and magazine articles. This wide range of Lexiled material enables media specialists to incorporate Lexiles into their school libraries, and provide educators with another method for differentiating classroom instruction.

Finding Lexiles for articles and books

Three of the largest periodical database providers, EBSCO, Gale and ProQuest, Lexile articles. These databases give you and classroom teachers the ability to confidently guide students to supplemental texts that are within their Lexile ranges, and to ensure an appropriate level of comprehension.

To integrate the available Lexile book measures into your library catalog, you have two main options:

- **License the Lexile Book Database**, which is available for free to educational institutions and libraries (at www.Lexile.com). You will be given download access to a tab-delimited text file, which includes bibliographic information and measures for all Lexiled books. This can be used to match available Lexile measures with your library holdings.
- **Contact your library services provider**, such as Follett, Alexandria, Library Integrated Solutions and Surpass Software, for an easy and inexpensive service that updates MARC records with Lexile measures.

Providing Lexile measures as part of your library records makes it easier to create customized reading lists for students based on their Lexile ranges, interests or reading needs.

Improves communication between you and the classroom

The common scale provided by the Lexile Framework can improve communication between the classroom and the media center, making it easier for you to combine your observations with those of the classroom teacher and other reading educators. Lexiles give you the ability to more effectively collaborate with teachers to develop appropriate special collections to support class reading assignments. In addition, by offering a method to indicate readability of texts, Lexiles can help make the library more accessible to students, and empower them to be more self-directed in their own reading development.

Using Lexiles in your library

- Labeling books with Lexile measures helps students more easily identify books that meet their comprehension needs. Labeling helps students find books of interest at their appropriate reading level.
- Comparing student Lexile levels with the Lexile levels of the books and periodicals in your library helps you analyze and develop the collection to more fully meet the needs of all students.
- Using your database or the free Lexile Book Search (at www.Lexile.com) to support book selection and create booklists within a student's Lexile range helps you guide student reading selections.

The Lexile Framework for Reading

The Lexile Framework is an indispensable part of your library, helping you help teachers and students make informed choices when choosing texts. Lexile measures give you the confidence to choose materials that will help improve student reading skills and take the guesswork out of matching readers with appropriate texts. If you know a student's Lexile measure, you can tell with a great deal of accuracy which books are appropriate for their reading ability.

The Lexile Framework is supported by many products, tools and services. For a complete list, see the "Lexiles in Education" fact sheet. To find out more about The Lexile Framework for Reading, visit the Lexile Web site at www.Lexile.com.



About MetaMetrics Inc.

MetaMetrics, a privately held educational measurement company, develops scientifically based measures of student achievement that link assessment with instruction, foster better educational practices and improve learning by matching students to materials that meet and challenge their abilities. The company's team of psychometricians developed The Lexile Framework for Reading and its companion scale, The Quantile Framework® for Mathematics. The Lexile Framework (www.Lexile.com) provides a common, developmental scale for matching reader ability and text difficulty. Lexile measures enable educators, parents and students to select targeted materials that can improve reading skills and to monitor reading growth across the curriculum, in the library and at home. Recognized as the most widely adopted reading measure, Lexiles are part of reading and testing programs in the classroom and at the district and state levels. More than 100,000 books, 80 million articles and 60,000 Web sites have Lexile measures, and all major standardized tests can report student reading scores in Lexiles. The Quantile Framework (www.Quantiles.com) measures mathematics achievement and the difficulty of mathematical skills and problems similar to the way Lexiles measure reading ability and text readability. Quantiles® identify the mathematical skills a student has learned, those that require instruction and new skills the student is ready to learn, enabling educators to use Quantile measures to target instruction, monitor student progress and forecast performance on high-stakes tests.

For more information on
Lexiles, call **1-888-LEXILES**
or visit **www.Lexile.com**.



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